ROY HALLADAY DIES
The two-time Cy Young Award winner dies in a plane crash. C1

TWITTER DOUBLES UP
Your tweets can now be 280 characters, instead of 140. A6

PRISON TO CLOSE
Enfield Correctional Institution will be shuttered early next year. B3

SUNNY, COOL 5/6★
Plenty of sunshine; highs near 50. A2

Hartford Courant

FOUNDED IN 1764

VOLUME CLXXXI NUMBER 312 | COURANT.COM | WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2017

Farmington
Voters elect a Democratic majority to the town council, while Republicans retain their majority on the school board. **Page B1**

Bristol
Democrat Ellen Zoppo-Sassu unseats incumbent Ken Cockayne for mayor and Democrats win a 5-1 majority on the city council. **Page B1**

Glastonbury
Town Democrats gain control of the town council for the first time in years, as Republicans lose their 14-year supermajority. **Page B1**

LEANING LEFT

CLOE POISSON | CPOISSON@COURANT.COM

ELLEN ZOPPO-SASSU, right, is congratulated by supporters upon arrival at the Polish American Club Tuesday night. The Democrat upset two-term incumbent Ken Cockayne to become the mayor of Bristol.

Citing Trump Fallout, Democrats Gain Ground

By DANIELA ALTIMARI | dnaltimari@courant.com

Democrats notched a string of stunning victories in Tuesday's municipal elections, taking control of government in suburban Republican strongholds such as Farmington, Glastonbury and Trumbull.

Party leaders attribute the wins at least partly to cadres of newly engaged activists who were spurred by the election of President Donald Trump last year. In traditionally low-turnout municipal elections, without a marquee contest such as U.S. Senate or governor, Democrats made tens of thousands of phone calls in an effort to boost turnout.

"In every region of the state, Democrats came out and proved yet again that grassroots energy is key to winning elections," Connecticut Democrat party Chairman Nick Balletto said. "Our party understands that change starts locally and will spread across the state and have far reaching impact. We showed this by a groundswell of victories that included flipping mayors' seats, taking back control of councils, and cutting supermajorities in major cities."

Balletto said the wins Tuesday night will boost the party's position as it heads into the 2018 election cycle, with the governor's office up for grabs. "These elections send a message, particularly to those Republicans looking to higher office who suffered major repudiations [Tuesday] in their own communities," he said. "We will capitalize on this momentum to mount a strong effort in 2018 and

ELECTION, A4

▸ For updated, town-by-town results, visit **courant.com**.

▸ Democrats won divisive gubernatorial contests in New Jersey and Virginia. **Page A3**

▸ Check out the **Connecticut section** inside for election stories from various towns, including West Hartford, New Britain, Manchester, Middletown, Burlington and Hartford.

TEXAS SHOOTING

A Life Full Of Warning Signs

Gunman Escaped Mental Health Facility In 2012

By ELI ROSENBERG, MARK BERMAN and WESLEY LOWERY
Washington Post

NEW BRAUNFELS, Texas — The gunman who killed more than two dozen people in a small church outside San Antonio on Sunday had a string of troubling episodes in recent years, including an escape from a mental health facility in 2012 after he was caught sneaking guns onto an Air Force base "attempting to carry out death threats" against military superiors, according to a police report.

Kelley

Devin P. Kelley's young life was riddled with warning signs, mounting during and after his time in the Air Force, including a conviction for beating his then-wife and stepson, charges of animal cruelty, mental health concerns, investigations for domestic assault, threats against his family members and a motorcycle crash that left him with lingering physical pain.

TEXAS, A4

ROOMMATE DISPUTE

Prosecutors: Evidence Will Guide UHart Case

NAACP Requests Hate Crime Charge

By KATHLEEN MEGAN and DAVID OWENS
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Community leaders, including the state head of the NAACP, met with Hartford prosecutors Tuesday to discuss a racially charged case involving a former University of Hartford student and were told that any decisions on adding a hate crime charge will be guided by the evidence and the law.

"They brought to our attention their desire for the addition of a hate crime in this particular instance," said Assistant State's Attorney Carl Ajello, who met with the leaders along with Hartford State's Attorney Gail Hardy. "One of their concerns was it was a long road to get a hate crime statute implemented in the state of Connecticut and they want it to be used when applicable."

Ajello said prosecutors do not comment on pending charges, but said, "In the end, we

UHART, A4

ANTHEM, HARTFORD HEALTHCARE

Big Employers Press Parties To Talk

Call For Resolution In Contract Dispute

By EDMUND H. MAHONY and STEPHEN SINGER
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Some of the state's largest employers weighed in Tuesday on the Hartford HealthCare and Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield contract impasse, calling for resolution of a disagreement over reimbursements for medical treatment that threatens coverage for tens of thousands of patients.

"We expect a resolution that improves health care quality and access, and insures that high quality care remains affordable for both patients and employers," the employers said in a letter. "It is in everyone's collective best interest — including your own — to immediately return to the negotiating table and resolve this dispute once and for all."

The letter was addressed to Jill Hummel, president and general manager of Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield in Connecticut and Elliot Joseph, president and CEO of Hartford HealthCare. It was signed by State Comptroller Kevin

IMPASSE, A4

Mobsters Plead Guilty
Reputed gangsters plead guilty to extortion. **Connecticut, Page B1**

Giving Back To Vets
Free dinners, desserts and more for veterans. **Living, Page D1**

Gaga For Mental Health
Mental health training to coincide with Lady Gaga show. **Living, Page D1**

UConn Coach Retires
The Huskies' women's soccer coach retires after 37 years. **Sports, Page C1**

CLASSIFIED A8
COMICS D4-D5
LOTTERY A2
OBITUARIES B8-B10
OPINION A9
PUZZLES D5

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